

**Pawtuxet River Authority
And Watershed Council
Historic Harris Mill
618 Main Street
Coventry, RI 02816
401-615-7039
www.pawtuxet.org**

**Monthly Board Meeting
December 1, 2008**

Board Members Present: Robert Nero, Jack Donovan, Rita Holahan, Fritz Benz, Jim McCaughey, Ginny Leslie, Michael Maddalena, Glenn Warfield, Scott Goodinson, Jack Lancellotta, Paul Lockett, Arthur Langlais

Location: West Warwick WWTF

Board Members Absent: Ross Adrain, Brian Manning

Guest: Peter Eldridge

1. Call to Order

Noting that a quorum was present Chairman Nero called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. Discussion took place regarding needed changes to the November minutes. The November minutes were accepted noting required changes.

2. Old Business

Annual Report

Fritz Benz stated that the report should contain a standard narrative section discussing the overall environmental quality of the river. Scott noted that this is good idea. Bob stated that he will add this section to the report. Rita said that she would draft something for this section using URI Watershed Watch Data and other historical data.

Discussion took place regarding financial audit requirements. Based on these discussions it was decided that a financial audit was not necessary. Arthur stated that the report should include a listing of all funds received by the PRA from each participating city and town and should have a section that discusses PRA property values. Discussion took place regarding PRA liability insurance.

Fish Passage

Bob noted that a grant funding contract needs to be signed with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. A motion was made by Arthur to authorize Bob Nero to sign this contract with the Department of Agriculture. Vote called – all in favor.

Pontiac Canoe Launch

Bob stated that the canoe launch is finished. Fritz asked if the drainage system works. Bob responded that the drainage works well and he will be working with the city to fix storm drains in the nearby area. Discussion took place regarding fencing and signage. Ginny suggested talking with Friends of the Pawtuxet regarding a grand opening in the spring.

Howard Property

Bob stated that he and Rita are investigating the possibility of a gift of \$30,000 to be made to the PRA by the PRP representative group involved with the Capuano Landfill recapping project which is to commence by June 2009. Bob stated that a Phase I site assessment needs to be conducted and a land survey is needed to confirm all boundaries with abutting property owners. Bob stated that the cost of a Phase I assessment would be about \$2,000 and discussed the potential use of SEPs to help fund upgrades to this property.

Title Search of Riverwalk Property

Bob stated that this has been a historical problem that encompasses five parcels of land obtained from the Pen-Central Railroad. At the current time we are not sure if we purchased the actual land or just an easement to the property. Bob stated the he is working with the PRA attorney to address this issue.

3. New Business

PRA Committees

Bob asked for a commitment from the Board Members to participate on one of two PRA Standing Committees - Projects and Finance. The following Board Member volunteered:

Projects: Fritz, Arthur, Jack, Paul, Mike, Glenn

Finance: Ginny, Scott, Jack, Rita, Jim

Rita asked to put together a list of clean-up projects for the spring.

West Warwick WWTF

Glenn acknowledged the West Warwick WWTF for allowing the use of their facility for the December Board Meeting.

RIDEM Depot

Rita stated that she is trying to get an appointment with RIDEM Director Sullivan regarding the RIDEM Depot property.

Howard Property

Rita stated a representative of a Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) of the Capuano Landfill will be in Rhode Island next week and the PRA may be able to meet with them at that time to discuss work that needs to be done on this property.

City/Town Payments

Glen asked for an update on delinquent town payments – Bob will follow up with the PRA attorney.

New Member Information Package

Glenn asked that an information package be put together for new and potential Board members.

4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.